

⁽¹²⁾ UK Patent Application ⁽¹⁹⁾ GB ⁽¹¹⁾ 2 093 433 A

- (43) Application published
2 Sep 1982

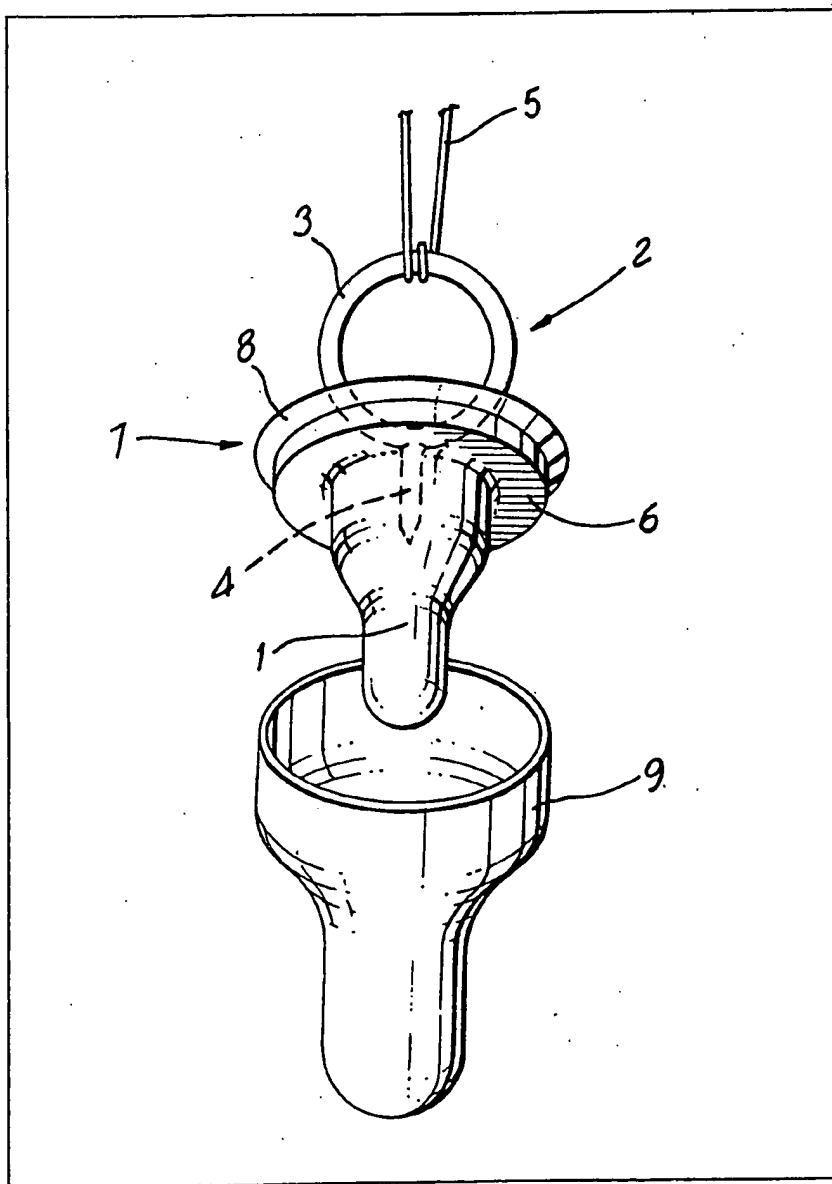
(52) Domestic classification
B8P P

(58) Field of search
B8P

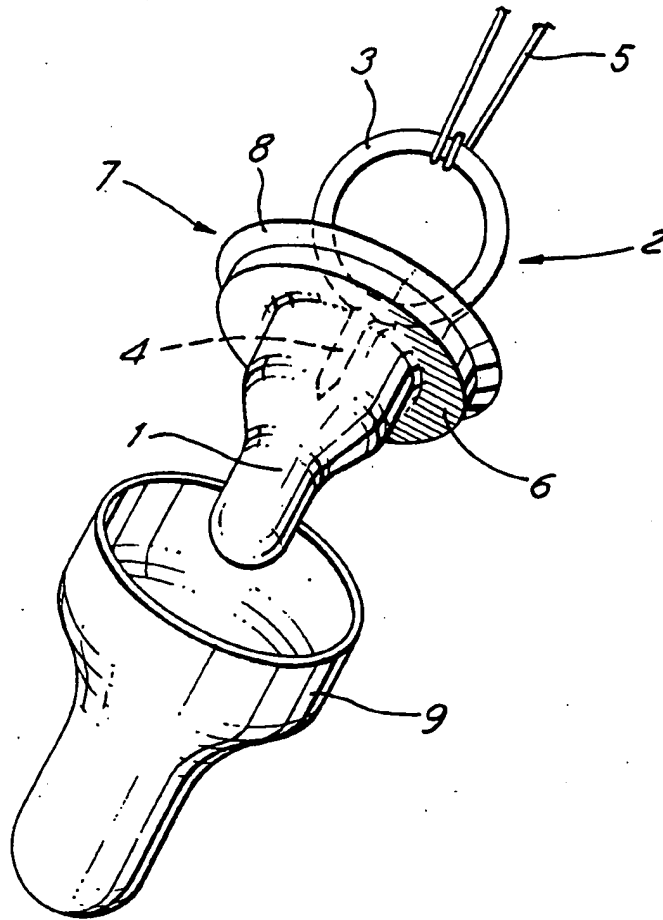
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(57) A sweet container for sweets (1) with a handle, stick or the like (2) comprises a lid portion (6) for attachment to or location on the

handle, stick or the like (2) in the vicinity of the sweet (1) and a container portion (9) for receiving the sweet (1) to which the lid portion (6) is fitted, the stick, handle or the like (2) being accessible from the exterior of the container.



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SPECIFICATION Confectionery

This invention relates to confectionery and in particular to confectionery provided with handles or sticks such as sweet dummies and lolly-pops.

Sweets of this nature have long been popular with children but have suffered from the disadvantage that they are, in many cases, too large for the child to consume at one go. This in the past has created problems since, unless one is prepared to throw away an unfinished sweet, it is difficult to keep the sweets for further consumption. Thus attempts are often made by parents to wrap-up the partly consumed sweet, for example in a paper bag. However, due to the sticky nature of the sweet once it has been partially consumed, the sweet sticks hard to the paper bag and it is very difficult to remove the paper from the sweet for further consumption. Furthermore it is a very sticky operation.

The present invention seeks to provide a device whereby partially consumed sweets of a type having handles or sticks are readily reusable and during the intervening period are protected from dirt and contamination and from sticking to wrappings or to the clothes of the user.

According to the invention, there is provided a sweet container for sweets having a handle stick or the like comprising a lid portion attached or located on the handle in the vicinity of the sweet and container for receiving the sweet to which the lid is fitted, the stick or handle being accessible from the exterior of the container.

Preferably the container is shaped to the configuration of the sweet. The container may be so arranged that with the lid in place, the sweet is located in the container in a position spaced from the walls of the container so that it cannot stick to the container walls.

The invention will now be described in greater detail by way of example, with reference to the drawing, the single figure of which is an exploded view of a sweet dummy and a container for use therewith.

As shown in the drawing, the sweet in question is a sweet dummy 1 which is provided at its outer end with a ring shaped handle 2 by means of which the sweet can be held by the child when sucking the dummy 1. In the arrangement shown, the handle 2 consists of a ring 3 which is attached to the end of a spike 4, the spike 4 being inserted into the dummy portion 2 during manufacture while the sweet is soft, the sweet then hardening onto the spike 4 so as to securely fasten the sweet 1 to the handle portion 2. The handle 2 may also be provided with a ribbon 5 whereby the sweet can be hung around a child's neck for safe keeping. Between the sweet 1 and the ring 3 of the handle 2 and situated around the spike 4 is a lid member 6 which extends outwardly to a greater radius than the radius of the sweet dummy 1. In the form shown, the lid is provided with a flange portion 7 which is of L-shape cross section and which extends backwardly of the sweet in the

direction of the ring 3 and then parallel to the main portion of the lid to form a lip 8.

This lid cooperates with a container 9 which has generally the shape of the sweet dummy 1 and whose inner dimensions, at the open end, correspond to the outer dimensions of the rearward extended portion of the lid member 6 so that the sweet 1 can be inserted into the container 9 with the lid member 6 having a sliding fit in the container 9. The lip 8 around the edge of the lid member 6 ensures correct positioning of the lid member 6 on the container 9.

As shown the dimensions of the container 9 are sufficiently larger than the dimensions of the sweet 1 that when the sweet 1 with the lid member 6 attached is placed in the container 9, the sweet 1 will be supported clear of the walls of the container.

The container 9 is preferably manufactured from a transparent plastics material and the engagement between the lid member 6 and the container 9 is such that while the sweet is being carried by the handle 2 or when being carried around the neck of a child by means of the ribbon 5, the container 9 will stay in position with relation to the lid member 6 and thus protect the sweet 1 and protect the child's clothes from contact with the sweet 1.

The container 9 can be removed at any time for enabling the sweet 1 to be sucked by the child and when the child has become tired of sucking the sweet 1 the container 9 may then be replaced over the sweet 1, thus keeping the sweet for further use.

It will of course be appreciated that while the above described embodiment relates to a particular form of sweet i.e. a sweet dummy with the ring attached thereto, the invention could equally apply to all sweets having handles or sticks, such as lolly-pops or various sorts.

It will be appreciated that various modifications may be made to the above described embodiments, without departing from the scope of the invention.

For example the lid member 6 of the container 9 could be formed as a flat lid with a forwardly extending edge which seats around the outside of the upper end of the container 9. However, this is considered to be less desirable since, in certain circumstances, it could get in the way of the consumption of the sweet. As mentioned, the container 9 is suitably of a similar shape to the sweet, but this is not essential and a standard form of container could be used with varying shapes of sweet. However, it is desirable that the sweet, when in position in the container, should not come into engagement with the walls.

It will be seen that the above described embodiment provides a means whereby sweets provided with handles, sticks or the like can be safely preserved if not entirely consumed on one occasion.

CLAIMS

1. A sweet container for sweets having a handle, stick or the like wherein the container

comprises a lid portion for attachment to or location on the handle in the vicinity of the sweet and a container portion for receiving the sweet to which the lid portion is fitted, the stick handle or the like being accessible from the exterior of the container.

2. A container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the container portion has a shape related to the sweet to be stored therein.

3. A container as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the container portion is so arranged that when a sweet is located in the container it is spaced from the walls of the container so that it cannot stick thereto.

4. A combination of a sweet handle, stick or the like and a container therefor, wherein the handle, stick or the like is provided with a lid in the vicinity of the sweet, the lid being fittable on the container with the sweet located within the container and the handle, stick or the like protruding from the lid at the exterior of the container.

5. A combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein the inner surface of the container

corresponds to the shape of the sweet but is of larger dimension than the sweet is spaced therefrom.

6. A combination as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein the handle, stick or the like comprises a ring by which the sweet can be held and through which a cord, ribbon or the like can be passed so that the sweet may be hung from the neck of the child so as to prevent it from being lost.

7. A combination as claimed in claim 6 wherein the ring, is provided with a radial spike to which the sweet is attached.

8. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 7, wherein the sweet has the shape of a baby's dummy.

9. A sweet container for sweets having a handle, stick or the like substantially as described herein with reference to the drawing.

10. A combination of a sweet having a handle, stick or the like and a container therefor substantially as described herein with reference to the drawing.